

low level wastes. Potential safety and health impacts to workers and the public, and potential impacts to air and water resources for the conversion activity are comparable for the processing to metal, oxide, or vitrification alternatives. Potential safety, health and environmental impacts are low and well within regulatory and management control limits.

The selected stabilization action will result in plutonium metal, a weapons-usable product. However, the quantity produced (including the metal to be produced as a result of decisions made in the December 12, 1995 ROD and Notice) will be a small fraction of DOE's existing inventory of plutonium metal, and DOE believes this small amount does not present nuclear proliferation concerns. None of the stabilization alternatives would denature the plutonium in a way that would preclude its recovery and use in nuclear weapons manufacture. The stabilized plutonium will not be used for nuclear explosive purposes. In addition, DOE is pursuing options for placing surplus plutonium-239 under international (e.g., IAEA) safeguards.

Finally, as noted above, the H-Canyon seismic analyses are expected to be completed in September 1996. A decision now to move neptunium and plutonium solutions from H-Canyon to F-Canyon is permissible and appropriate prior to the completion of the H-Canyon analyses because removal of the materials from H-Canyon would not involve operation of the HB-Line, but would result in reducing the amount of nuclear materials present in H-Canyon. No additional nuclear materials will be introduced into H-Canyon until the on-going seismic analyses are complete.

VII. Conclusion

The Final EIS analyzes interim management alternatives for nuclear materials at the SRS. Those alternatives and the decisions associated with the safe management of these materials directly affect the operational status of the nuclear material processing facilities at the Site. The decisions in this supplemental ROD, as in the December 12, 1995 ROD and Notice and February 8, 1996 Supplemental ROD, are structured to effect the completion of actions necessary to stabilize or convert nuclear materials into forms suitable for safe storage and prepare the facilities for potential subsequent shutdown and deactivation. The actions being implemented will support efficient, cost-effective consolidation of the storage of nuclear materials and will

result in stabilization of the nuclear materials and alleviation of associated vulnerabilities within the time frame recommended by the DNFSB.

The stabilization decisions utilize existing facilities and processes to the extent practical; can be implemented within expected budget constraints and with minimal additional training for involved personnel; rely upon proven technology; use an integrated approach considering a multiplicity of factors; and represent the optimum use of facilities to stabilize the materials in the shortest amount of time. Only minor modifications of the canyon facilities will be required (loading and unloading stations, and modification to the vitrification equipment to be installed for the americium/curium solution stabilization as announced in the December 12, 1995 ROD and Notice).

Several years will be required to achieve stabilization of the nuclear materials within the scope of this and the previous RODs. Stabilization of the candidate nuclear materials will entail the operation of many portions of the chemical processing facilities and, consistent with DNFSB Recommendation 94-1, will preserve DOE's capabilities for the management and stabilization of other nuclear materials until programmatic decisions are made.

Issued at Washington, DC, September 6, 1996.

Alvin L. Alm,

Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management.

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Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP96-761-000]

Koch Gateway Pipeline Company; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

September 9, 1996.

Take notice that on September 4, 1996, Koch Gateway Pipeline Company (Koch Gateway), 600 Travis Street, Houston, Texas, 77251, filed in Docket No. CP96-761-000, a request pursuant to Sections 157.205 and 157.211 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205 and 157.211) for authorization to construct and operate an eight-inch tap; a dual six-inch meter station, and approximately 1,700 feet of eight-inch pipeline and appurtenances to serve Union Carbide Corporation (Union Carbide), an end-user, under Koch

Gateway's blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-430-000, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act, all as more fully set forth in the request which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Koch Gateway proposes to install the new delivery point on its existing lateral line, designated as Index 300-22 in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana to satisfy Union Carbide's request for service, on behalf of Coral Energy Resources, L.P. (Coral), a natural gas marketer. Koch Gateway states that all work will be within Koch Gateway's existing right-of-way and Union Carbide's existing plant site. Koch Gateway further states that the initial transportation service, of an estimated 20,000 MMBtu of gas per day to be delivered to Union Carbide, will be pursuant to an Interruptible Transportation Service (ITS) agreement with Coral.

Koch Gateway further states it will construct and operate the proposed facilities in compliance with 18 CFR, Part 157, Subpart F, and that the proposed activities will not affect Koch Gateway's ability to serve its other existing customers.

Koch Gateway estimates the cost of construction to be \$420,000. Koch Gateway states that although the proposed service is interruptible, construction of the tap and lateral is consistent with Section 16 of the General Terms and Conditions of Koch Gateway's tariff regarding installation of lateral lines. Koch Gateway explains that Coral has agreed to reimburse Koch Gateway a dollar amount to be calculated on a sliding scale if it fails to take a specified average quantity over the first two years of its ITS agreement.

Any person or the Commission's staff may, within 45 days after issuance of the instant notice by the Commission, file pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Procedural Rules (18 CFR 385.214) a motion to intervene or notice of intervention and pursuant to Section 157.205 of the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205) a protest to the request. If no protest is filed within the time allowed therefor, the proposed activity shall be deemed to be authorized effective the day after the time allowed for filing a protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the time allowed for filing a protest, the instant request shall be treated as an application for authorization pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

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